

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:144

ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008

POLIO CASES

Bhagora Shri Mahavir;Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of polio have been reported in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether a large number of children are still vulnerable to polio even after administration of the vaccine; and
- (d) if so, the strategies adopted to eradicate polio from the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.144 FOR 29TH OCTOBER, 2008

(a) to (c): A statement indicating number of polio cases reported in States during last three years is annexed. A significant progress has been made in improving the immunity status of children. Still children in the endemic districts are vulnerable for polio because:

- # Convergence of a number of risk factors that favors virus transmission and interfere with effectiveness of oral polio vaccine.
- # Population immunity threshold needed to stop transmission and sustain cessation in some of the endemic districts is very high.
- # Analysis of data suggests that the immunity to WPVI among young children in some of the endemic districts of Western UP decline during the first and second quarter of 2008.

(d) The strategy adopted to eradicate polio from the country is as given below:

- # Undertaking Supplementary Immunization Activities with monovalent type specific vaccine in endemic States/districts.
- # Mop up Immunization activities are being undertaken in response to detection of polio virus in polio free areas.
- # Effective social mobilization is being undertaken by involving religious leaders, gram panchayats and community leaders.